

§ 1944.515

(c) Each TSA applicant should consider the alternatives available to provide needed housing facilities and services for the area. Consideration should also be given to the recommendations and services available from local, state, federal governmental entities, and from private agencies and individuals.

(1) In no case should the TSA project deliberately conflict with or duplicate housing studies, plans, projects, or any other housing related activities in a rural area unless documentation shows these activities do not meet the needs of low-income families.

(2) Each TSA project should be coordinated to the extent possible with any comprehensive or special purpose plans and projects affecting low-income housing in the area.

(3) To the fullest extent possible, TSA projects should be coordinated with any housing-related activities currently being carried out in the area.

(d) TSA applicants must coordinate their proposals with the appropriate County and District Offices to be fully familiar with the needs of those offices and of the low-income families currently served by the County Offices.

§ 1944.515 [Reserved]

§ 1944.516 Grant purposes.

Grant funds are to be used for a housing delivery system and counseling program to include a comprehensive program of technical and supervisory assistance as set forth in the grant agreement and any other special conditions as required by FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354. Uses of grant funds may include, but are not limited to:

(a) The development and implementation of a program of technical and supervisory assistance as defined in § 1944.506 (h) and (i).

(b) Payment of reasonable salaries of professional, technical, and clerical staff actively assisting in the delivery of the TSA project.

(c) Payment of necessary and reasonable office expenses such as office supplies and office rental, office utilities, telephone services, and office equipment rental.

7 CFR Ch. XVIII (1-1-08 Edition)

(d) Payment of necessary and reasonable administrative costs such as workers' compensation, liability insurance, audit reports, travel to and attendance at FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354 approved training sessions, and the employer's share of Social Security and health benefits. Payments to private retirement funds are prohibited unless prior written authorization is obtained from the Administrator.

(e) Payment of reasonable fees for necessary training of grantee personnel. This may include the cost of travel and per diem to attend regional training sessions when authorized by the State Director.

(f) Other reasonable travel and miscellaneous expenses necessary to accomplish the objectives of the specific TSA grant which were anticipated in the individual TSA grant proposal and which have been included as eligible expenses at the time of grant approval.

§ 1944.517 [Reserved]

§ 1944.518 Term of grant.

TSA projects will be funded under one Grant Agreement for two years commencing on the date of execution of the Agreement by the State Director.

§ 1944.519 [Reserved]

§ 1944.520 Ineligible activities.

(a) Grant funds may not be used for:

(1) Acquisition, construction, repair, or rehabilitation of structures or acquisition of land, vehicles, or equipment.

(2) Replacement of or substitution for any financial support which would be available from any other source.

(3) Duplication of current services in conflict with the requirements of § 1944.514(c).

(4) Hiring personnel to perform construction.

(5) Buying property of any kind from families receiving technical or supervisory assistance from the grantee under the terms of the TSA grant.

(6) Paying for or reimbursing the grantee for any expenses or debts incurred before FmHA or its successor

agency under Public Law 103-354 executes the grant agreement.

(7) Paying any debts, expenses, or costs which should be the responsibility of the individual families receiving technical and supervisory assistance.

(8) Any type of political activities.

(9) Other costs including contributions and donations, entertainment, fines and penalties, interest and other financial costs, legislative expenses and any excess of cost from other grant agreements.

(b) Advice and assistance may be obtained from the National Office where ineligible costs are proposed as part of the TSA project or where a proposed cost appears ineligible.

(c) The grantee may not charge fees or accept compensation or gratuities from TSA recipients for the grantee's assistance under this program.

§ 1944.521 [Reserved]

§ 1944.522 Equal opportunity requirements.

The policies and regulations contained in subpart E of part 1901 of this chapter apply to grants made under this subpart.

§ 1944.523 Other administrative requirements.

The following policies and regulations apply to grants made under this subpart:

(a) The policies and regulations contained in subpart F of part 1901 of this chapter regarding historical and archaeological properties.

(b) The policies and regulations contained in subpart G of part 1940 of this chapter regarding Environmental Assessments.

[44 FR 36891, June 22, 1979, as amended at 48 FR 29121, June 24, 1983; 49 FR 3763, Jan. 30, 1984]

§ 1944.524 [Reserved]

§ 1944.525 Targeting of TSA funds to States.

(a) The Administrator will determine, based on the most current available information (generally that information used to determine the allocation to States of FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354 hous-

ing loan funds), those States with the highest degree of substandard housing and persons in poverty in rural areas eligible to receive FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354 housing assistance. The Administrator will distribute a portion of the available funds for TSA to these States, leaving the balance available for national competition.

(b) The Administrator will provide annual notice through a published Notice on the distribution of appropriated TSA funds, the number of preapplications to be submitted to the National Office from the State Offices, and the maximum grant amount per project.

§ 1944.526 Preapplication procedure.

(a) *Preapplication submission.* (1) All applicants will file an original and two copies of SF 424.1, "Application for Federal Assistance (For Non-construction)," and supporting information detailed below with the appropriate District Office serving the proposed TSA area. A preapplication packet including SF 424.1 is available in all District and State Offices.

(i) The applicant will provide informational copies of the preapplication to the County Supervisor(s) of the area to be served by the TSA project at the time of submittal to the appropriate District Office.

(ii) If the TSA area encompasses more than one District Office, the preapplication will be filed at the District Office which serves the area in which the grantee will provide the greatest amount of TSA efforts. Additional informational copies of the preapplication will be sent by the applicant to the other affected District Office(s).

(2) All preapplications shall be accompanied by the following information which will be used to determine the applicant's eligibility to undertake a TSA program and to determine whether the applicant might be funded.

(i) A narrative presentation of the applicant's proposed TSA program, including:

(A) The technical and supervisory assistance to be provided;

(B) The time schedule for implementing the program;